

Please substitute the following claim 8 for the pending claim 8:

8. (Twice amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said host cell expresses one of the following:
- (a) aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase activity;
 - (b) dihydrodipicolinate synthase activity;
 - (c) dihydrodipicolinate reductase activity;
 - (d) diaminopimelate dehydrogenase activity; and
 - (e) diaminopimelate decarboxylase activity.

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[Please substitute the following claim 9 for the pending claim 9:]

9. (Twice amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising screening for said activity.

Please substitute the following claim 16 for the pending claim 16:

16. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising:
- (a) the polynucleotide molecule of claim 2; and
 - (b) at least one additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene selected from the group consisting of:
 - (i) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *asd* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4;
 - (ii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *dapA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6;

(iii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *dapB* polypeptide of SEQ ID

NO:8;

(iv) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *ddh* polypeptide of SEQ ID

NO:10;

(v) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *'lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID

NO:21;

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(vi) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID

NO:14; and

(vii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *ORF2* polypeptide of SEQ

ID NO:16.

Please substitute the following claim 63 for the pending claim 63:

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63. (Twice amended) The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 61 wherein said promoter is operably linked to the nucleotide sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:2.

Please add the following new claims:

68. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase activity.

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69. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is dihydروdipicolinate synthase activity.

70. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is dihydrodipicolinate reductase activity.
71. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is diaminopimelate dehydrogenase activity.
72. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is diaminopimelate decarboxylase activity.
73. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *asd* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4.
74. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *dapA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6.
75. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *dapB* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8.

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CONT

76. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *ddh* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:10.
77. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the '*lysA*' polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:21.
78. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:14.
79. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *ORF2* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:16.

In the Abstract:

Please substitute the following abstract for the pending abstract:

The invention provides methods to increase the production of an amino acid from *Corynebacterium* species by way of the amplification of amino acid biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome. In a preferred embodiment, the invention provides methods to increase the production of L-lysine in *Corynebacterium glutamicum* by way of the amplification of L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome.